

ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

D. M. Carter

11/20/85

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1. The first step in the process of the investigation is the identification of the problem. This is done by the investigator who is responsible for the study. The investigator must first identify the problem that he or she is investigating. This is done by the investigator who is responsible for the study. The investigator must first identify the problem that he or she is investigating.

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This abuse of Armenian and American history is totally unacceptable to the Armenian Assembly and the entire Armenian-American community. Regardless of immediate political interests, the documented history of the Armenian people and the proud record of United States intervention and humanitarian assistance on behalf of the Armenians cannot be altered or ignored.

The Armenian Assembly fully expects an unambiguous retraction. Towards that end, we would welcome the opportunity for consultations to the extent necessary to resolve this urgent matter.

Ron Vester

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

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December 7, 1982

ACTION

is assigned to

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The Honorable George Shultz
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20502

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I was startled, to say the least, when I saw the article on "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile," in the August issue of the Department of State Bulletin. A note on page 35 at the conclusion of the article states: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

The Department's own files contain many, many pages of documentation to refute this statement. I will cite just one, the July 1915 cable from Ambassador Henry Morgenthau Sr. in Constantinople to Secretary of State Robert Lansing. The cable said in part: "Persecution of Armenians assuming unprecedented proportions, ... wholesale expulsions and deportations from one end of the Empire to the other accompanied by frequent instances of rape, pillage, and murder, turning into massacre.... These measures...are purely arbitrary and directed from Constantinople."

Furthermore the Bulletin's assertion is contradicted by the public statements of our last two Presidents. On May 16, 1978, President Carter said, "There was a concerted effort made to eliminate all the Armenian people." And on April 22, 1981, President Reagan memorialized "the genocide of the Armenians," thereby embracing the very term that the Department of State Bulletin seeks to refute with its statement that the record of the 1915 "events" is "ambiguous." Certainly Presidents Reagan and Carter did not find the record "ambiguous" nor deign to dismiss the genocide as a mere "event."

I think the record should be corrected. I would appreciate it if you would direct the Department of State Bulletin to publish a correction in the next issue.

Please see page 2....

from: Lee Aspin

D. M. Crane

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MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ
100-555-2481

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



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December 7, 1982

Mr. George F. Shultz
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 "C" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Shultz:

I cannot understand why the Department of State (in the August edition of the Department of State Bulletin in an article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile") has apparently tried to reverse history and all of the documentation that has been provided for so many years concerning the Armenian genocide.

As you may know, the article in a footnote states, "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

I do not believe that it is necessary to document the numerous occasions on which United States' actions and statements have reaffirmed the Armenian genocide. Your assistance in seeing that a complete retraction of that unfortunate allegation in the Department of State Bulletin would be most appreciated by the entire Armenian-American community including a large number of my constituents, and by me.

Sincerely,

Matthew G. Martinez
MATTHEW G. "MARTY" MARTINEZ
Member of Congress

MEMORANDUM

D.M. Crum

12/20/82

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U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

100-335-1582

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 7, 1982

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Mr. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations
State Department
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Powell:

I am writing in reference to an article which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin entitled, "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile."

Specifically, I wish to draw attention to a statement which appeared as a note to the text of this article. This note states that "because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people."

It is perplexing that, after 67 years, the State Department would determine that there is insufficient evidence on which to base the recognition that in the years between 1915 and 1918 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children perished in what then-Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau termed a "campaign of race extermination" by the Ottoman government. The historical record is replete with eyewitness accounts, official State Department communiqués, Congressional findings and contemporary reaffirmations of the Genocide including statements of President Ronald Reagan.

No statement assigning responsibility for the genocide of the Armenian people can detract or add to the horrible nature of the events themselves. To diminish, in any way, the events of 1915 is not only a great injustice in itself, but a great disservice to the memories of those 1.5 million who were killed and to their survivors and descendants. No act of human destruction can be redeemed if it is not recognized.

This is of grave concern to me and to the many Americans of Armenian descent who live in my Congressional District, many of whom are my close personal friends. I would hope that the Department of State would carefully reconsider this entire matter.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDC:NR

RECEIVED BY D.M. Crum DATE 12/20/85

CJW:mef

Sincerely,

Carl Albert
CARL ALBERT
Member of Congress

RECEIVED

Mr. Secretary
 Mr. Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Deputy Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Chief of Staff
 Mr. Executive Secretary
 Mr. General Counsel
 Mr. Inspector General
 Mr. Legal Attaches
 Mr. Liaison Officer
 Mr. Press Secretary
 Mr. Public Affairs Officer
 Mr. Records Management
 Mr. Security Officer
 Mr. Training Officer
 Mr. Travel Officer
 Mr. Administrative Officer
 Mr. Information Officer
 Mr. Planning Officer
 Mr. Policy Officer
 Mr. Research Officer
 Mr. Technical Officer
 Mr. Liaison Officer
 Mr. Press Secretary
 Mr. Public Affairs Officer
 Mr. Records Management
 Mr. Security Officer
 Mr. Training Officer
 Mr. Travel Officer
 Mr. Administrative Officer
 Mr. Information Officer
 Mr. Planning Officer
 Mr. Policy Officer
 Mr. Research Officer
 Mr. Technical Officer

100-178-1A 2:1
Congress of the United States
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20515
December 8, 1982

Mr. Secretary
 Mr. Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Deputy Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Chief of Staff
 Mr. Executive Secretary
 Mr. General Counsel
 Mr. Inspector General
 Mr. Legal Attaches
 Mr. Liaison Officer
 Mr. Press Secretary
 Mr. Public Affairs Officer
 Mr. Records Management
 Mr. Security Officer
 Mr. Training Officer
 Mr. Travel Officer
 Mr. Administrative Officer
 Mr. Information Officer
 Mr. Planning Officer
 Mr. Policy Officer
 Mr. Research Officer
 Mr. Technical Officer

Honorable George P. Shultz
 Secretary
 Department of State
 Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am disturbed over a recent Department of State report suggesting that United States policy no longer recognizes the Armenian Genocide.

The article entitled "Armenian Terrorism: A Profile" which appeared in the August 1982 edition of the Department of State Bulletin contains a footnote which reads: "Because the historical record of the 1915 events in Asia Minor is ambiguous, the Department of State does not endorse allegations that the Turkish Government committed a genocide against the Armenian people".

Based on this statement, is it now United States policy that the Armenian Genocide never occurred?

Such a policy would be in conflict with the State Department's own historical records, eyewitness accounts of U.S. officials, Congressional and international studies, and the positions of contemporary U.S. Administrations. As recently as April 22, 1981, President Reagan referred to the genocide of the Armenians when proclaiming national "days of remembrance" for the victims of the Holocaust.

I would appreciate a letter as soon as possible describing the Administration's evaluation of the events which transpired from 1894 to 1923 when nearly two million Armenian people perished and 500,000 were deported from their ancestral homeland.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON
 Sincerely,
 BY *D.M. Crane* 11/29/85 *J. Florio*
 James O. Florio
 Member of Congress

JJF/5

WASHINGTON ()

STAFFORD ()

GLASSBORO ()

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